



**KING COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

4:00-5:30 PM

Conference Room 6A, Exchange Building
821 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes

Attending:

Ron Sterling (KCMHAB)

Howard Miller (KCMHAB)

Linda Brown (KCASAAB)

Alice Howell (KCMHAB)

Eleanor Owen (Co-Chair/KCMHAB)

Bob Shepherd (NAMI-SK)

Mary Anderson (NAMI-SK)

Sandy Klungness (NAMI-SK)

Frank Jose (NAMI – Greater

Absent:

Pam Dietrick (KCASAAB)

Mindy Meyring (KCMHAB)

Jim Harbaugh (KCASAAB)

Clifford Thurston (KCMHAB)

Bob Seidensticker (KCASAAB)

Roger Goodman (Co-Chair/KCASAAB)

Staff: Amnon Shoenfeld, Geoff Miller, Sherry Hamilton

I. Introductions/Announcements

Introductions and announcements were made. The folks from NAMI were welcomed and invited to participate in the meeting.

II. Review and Approval of August 28, 2002 Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved as written.

Available in alternate formats upon request.

(206) 205-1324 or (206) 205-1136

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III. 2002 Action Plan – Legislative Advocacy and Outreach

- Updates: Outreach to legislators, community partners, stakeholders

Eleanor Owen noted that she had met with Sen. Frank Chopp, and Sen. Thibadeau. Both legislators have agreed to attend the legislative forum.

- Assignments/Next Steps – outreach and engagement

It was noted that meeting with legislators would be easier after specific issues were identified and approved by the boards. This was discussed and Amnon stated that a one page paper that would be useful is being crafted and should be ready for the next meeting.

IV. Community Legislative Forum

There was a lively discussion and recapping of the discussion and legislative priorities as established at the August 28, 2002 meeting. After a wide ranging discussion the committee confirmed the three legislative points and recommended their adoption to the Mental Health Advisory Board and the Substance Abuse Administrative Board.

- Legislative Forum Format

Opening and welcome:

It was agreed that the host of the event should be the NAMI – South King and a representative from the chemical dependency community will do the opening remarks and welcome.

Presentation:

It was agreed that a presentation to the legislators and the audience should be brief and pointed. It should describe the legislative issues and reflect an attitude of “partnership” with the legislature as we move together into difficult times. In addition there should be “human face” that describes the services need and the problems that occur when mental health and chemical dependency services are not provided. It was further suggested that Linda Brown and Howard Miller do the presentation.

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- The role of the legislators at the forum.

Legislators at this forum, the committee determined, would be asked to take a more active role in describing the issues that face us all, how they will make their decisions, and what the key issues for mental health and chemical dependency are this legislative session.

- The need for an exceptional attendance at the forum

The forum this year is very important, and exceptional attendance is critical. Several ideas to promote attendance at the forum were suggested. Those ideas included inviting additional sponsors who agree with the needs for mental health and chemical dependency services, asking providers and supportive organizations to support the forum by filling a bench (bringing ten people), and by approaching the boards of the not-for profit providers to attend.

- Sherry Hamilton handed out drafts of the “save the date” flyer, letter and follow-up letter that would be sent to legislators and the division mailing list. They were approved with minor suggestions for changes.
- Amnon will complete the “legislative” one page document for review at the next meeting
- Geoff agreed to develop tickets with map to the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center to use in promoting attendance.
- Sherry will review and make the changes to the “save the date” flyer, letter and follow-up letter.
- Frank Jose agreed to contact his legislators inviting them to attend..

V. Public Affairs Plan

- Discussion: Draft Public Affairs Action Plan was included a review of the plan by Ron and discussion of the role of the committee in making mental health and substance abuse services more visible in the county. A motion was moved and seconded to approve the plan and pass the plan as it is now written

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to the Mental Health Advisory Board and Substance Abuse Administrative Board for their consideration.

VI. Set Agenda for October 23, 2002 meeting, which will be held as follows:

October 23, 2002
2 PM to 3:30 PM
Conference Room 6A, Exchange Building
821 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

For information call Geoff Miller, King County Mental health , chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division (206) 205-1136 or Sherry Hamilton, King County Department of Community and Human Services at (206) 205-1324.

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